

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01C21/36

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01C H04Q G08G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 199 014 B1 (WALKER ET AL) 6 March 2001 (2001-03-06)	1,3-5,7, 8,14,16, 17,19, 20,24
Y	abstract column 5, line 9 - column 6, line 46 column 8, line 61 - column 9, line 14	2,9,15, 21
Y	EP 0 790 486 A (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP) 20 August 1997 (1997-08-20) column 3, line 28 - line 42	2,15
Y	EP 1 106 965 A (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP) 13 June 2001 (2001-06-13) paragraph '0106!	9,21
	----- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the International filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

16 September 2004

Date of mailing of the International search report

23/09/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Hoekstra, F

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 02/063243 A (HUCKLE NEIL) 15 August 2002 (2002-08-15) page 1, line 12 - line 21 page 2, line 11 - line 30 page 4, line 9 - line 14 page 6, line 1 - line 5 -----	1,5,6,8, 10,14, 18,20,24
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 14, 31 December 1998 (1998-12-31) & JP 10 232135 A (SONY CORP), 2 September 1998 (1998-09-02) abstract -----	1,11,12, 14,22,24

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6199014	B1	06-03-2001	NONE	
EP 0790486	A	20-08-1997	JP 3223782 B2	29-10-2001
			JP 9218047 A	19-08-1997
			DE 69629451 D1	18-09-2003
			DE 69629451 T2	01-07-2004
			EP 0790486 A2	20-08-1997
			KR 216888 B1	01-09-1999
			US 5845228 A	01-12-1998
EP 1106965	A	13-06-2001	WO 0079218 A1	28-12-2000
			EP 1106965 A1	13-06-2001
			US 2001005809 A1	28-06-2001
WO 02063243	A	15-08-2002	WO 02063243 A1	15-08-2002
JP 10232135	A	02-09-1998	NONE	